

REMARKS

The Examiner has identified the application as containing claims directed to more than one distinct species. The Examiner has required the applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted.

In particular, the Examiner requires that applicant elect a single specific catalyst for the production of acetic acid. The Examiner states that the species are the various different catalysts made by the processes set forth in claims 1-25. The Examiner states that the response must also identify the claims readable on the elected species, including claims subsequently added.

In response to the election of species requirement, applicants hereby elect the species that corresponds to the catalyst of Example 1. The catalyst of the elected species includes (a) palladium, (b) silicotungstic acid (specifically 1-12-silicotungstic acid), (c) Te, and (d) Zn. Claims readable on the elected species are believed to include at least claim 7-13, 23 and 24. This election is made without traverse.

Applicants have amended the specification at pages 47 and 48 to delete certain analysis results of Example 1 and Comparative Example 1 that were erroneously described.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES
REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
Application No.: 10/564,440

Attorney Docket No.: Q77244

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

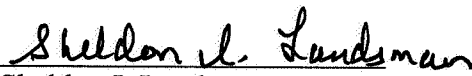
Respectfully submitted,

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